

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Previously pending claims 1-30 have been canceled and new claims 31-55 are presented. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are patentable subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §101, as the claims enable a useful result in the technical arts. That is, each of the claims recites methods, systems or an article to perform such a method on one or more client systems to achieve a useful result. Other claims further recite performing such methods or a system for use in a multicast system or network environment. Accordingly, the claims recite patentable subject matter, and the subject matter rejection is overcome.

It is further respectfully submitted that the new claims comply with §112, paragraph 2.

It is also respectfully submitted that the new claims are patentable over the cited art. As to new independent claims 31, 39, 45 and 51, nowhere does Kauffman, previously cited, teach or suggest a client system that includes at least one addressable agent. For at least this reason, the claims patentably distinguish over Kauffman.

The claims are further patentable over Hofmann, previously cited, as nowhere does Hofmann teach or suggest determining whether a message is directed to a given client system or a subset of client systems, as recited by claim 31 and similarly by claim 39. Furthermore, as to claims 45 and 51, Hofmann nowhere teaches or suggests a method or system for use in a multicast system or network.

Nor do the additional references, either alone or in combination with Hofmann or Kauffman teach or suggest the claimed subject matter.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

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Respectfully submitted,



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